Docket No. 110.00900101

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Laura P.W. Ranum et al.

Group Art Unit:

1655

Serial No.:

09/181,585

Examiner:

J. Souaya

Filed:

October 28, 1998

For:

SPINOCEREBELLAR ATAXIA TYPE 8 AND METHODS OF DETECTION

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed December 23, 1999. Entry and consideration of the following amendments and remarks are respectfully requested.

In the Specification

Please amend the specification as follows:

At page 35, line 5, please delete "However, that the SCA8" and insert -- However, the SCA8 -- therefore.

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 5, 6, and 20.

The pending claims are reproduced below for the Examiner's convenience, with the amended claims so marked.

1. • (Amended) A method for detecting the presence of a DNA fragment located within an at-risk allele of the SCA8 doding sequence comprising:

> treating separate complementary DNA molecules of a DNA fragment containing a repeat region of the SCA8 coding sequence with a molar excess of two

oligonucleotide/primers;

216.00 OP